



PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

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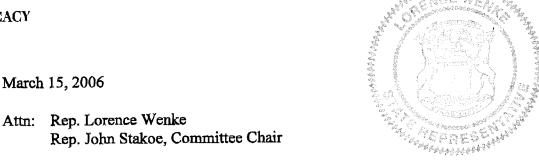
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Dear Local Government and Urban Policy Committee,

Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, Inc. (MPAS) strongly supports HB 4138, the inclusive home design act. The bill proposes relatively minor changes to standard architectural features that dramatically increase access to housing for people with disabilities. Making a home accessible at the onset of construction is much more cost-effective than retro-fitting doorways, or making structural changes to other paths of travel. Expanding the breadth of the current laws related to accessible housing (the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, and Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988) to include single family homes is a key component to increasing affordable accessible housing options for Michigan citizens. Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Sincerely.

ollene Dabish

Public Policy & Outreach Specialist

Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, Inc.

Livonia Office:

248.473.4104 (Fax)

Livonia Corporate Towers 29200 Vassar Blvd., Suite 200 . Livonla, MI 48152-2116 248.473.2990 1.800.414.3956 (Toll Free)

4095 Legacy Parkway, Suite 500 - Lansing, MI 48911-4263 517.487.1755 (Voice or TTY) 800,288,5923 (Information and Referral) 517.487.0827 (Fax)

Marquette Office:

129 W. Baraga Ave., Suite A . Marquette, MI 49855-4644 906.228.5910 866,928,5910 (Tall Free) 906.228.9148 (Fax)